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BY: *Mark Shrey*

Date: *June 2, 2003*

PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re: | Patent Application of Frank SCHLIEBER <i>et al.</i> | : | Group Art Unit: 1732 |
| Conf. No.: | 6536 | : | |
| Appln. No.: | 09/736,096 | : | Examiner: Edmund H. Lee |
| Filed: | December 13, 2000 | : | |
| For: | MANUFACTURING PROCESS FOR A PLASTIC INJECTION MOLDING LAMINATED WITH TEXTILE FABRIC, NON-WOVEN OR THE LIKE | : | Attorney Docket No. 4070-187US (K400846US) |

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This is in response to the Office Action dated May 14, 2003 (Paper No. 12), in the above-identified patent application. This response is being timely filed by June 16, 2003 (as June 14, 2003 is a Saturday).

The Examiner has required restriction between claims 1-6 (Group I), directed to a manufacturing process for a plastic injection molding laminated with a fabric, allegedly classified in class 264, subclass 511, and claims 7-9 (Group II), directed to a textile fabric, allegedly classified in class 442, subclass 59. The Examiner takes the position that the process of Group I and the fabric of Group II are related as product and process of use, which are distinct because the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product such as extruding molten plastic onto the fabric blank in order to form a plastic molding laminated with a fabric.

Applicants do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's argument in support of restriction, especially as the Examiner is not likely to be unduly burdened in his search since a search for the claimed manufacturing process will likely encompass references drawn to the

claimed fabric. Similarly, a search for the claimed fabric will likely encompass references drawn to the claimed process.

Provisional Election

However, in an effort to expedite prosecution of the application on the merits, Applicants hereby elect in response to written Restriction Requirement, without traverse, claims 1-6 (Group I), drawn to a manufacturing process for a plastic injection molding laminated with a fabric, for examination on the merits.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned with regard to any questions which might arise at the telephone number indicated below. Reconsideration and an early examination of the claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK SCHLIEBER *et al.*

6/3/03

(Date)

By: WILLIAM C. YOUNGBLOOD

Registration No. 50,524

AKIN, GUMP, STRAUSS, HAUER & FELD, L.L.P.

One Commerce Square

2005 Market Street - Suite 2200

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Telephone: (215)965-1200

Direct Dial: 215-965-1246

Facsimile: (215) 965-1210

E-Mail: wyoungblood@akingump.com

WWS:WCY:eas